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NOTE VERBALE DATED 25 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to it herewith the text of a letter from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning the imperialist United States, NATO and Zionist aggression being waged against Iraq and the heinous and premeditated crimes thereby being committed against Iraqi citizens and against the economic, cultural, scientific and religious assets of our people.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq requests the circulation of this note and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Letter dated 24 January 1991 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, addressed to the Secretary-General

Since the imperialist United States, NATO and Zionist aggression against our country began at 0230 hours on 17 January 1991, the attacking forces have been committing heinous premeditated crimes against Iraqi citizens and against the economic, cultural, scientific and religious assets of our great people, which is one that has made a centuries-old contribution to human civilization.

On all occasions - in the course of our meeting at Amman on 31 August 1990 and during your visit to Baghdad on 11 and 12 January 1991 - we have constantly indicated and have explained to you in a clear and detailed manner that the basic fact with regard to the events which preceded and followed 2 August 1990 is that the imperialist United States, NATO and Zionist alliance and its treacherous adherents among the régimes of the region have had the objective, as they continue to do, of destroying resurgent Iraq, which is pursuing a free and independent policy and which proudly rejects imperialist and Zionist hegemony over the region and over its resources. Everything that has happened has taken place within the framework of a conspiracy hostile to the hopes of peoples for freedom, sovereignty, independence and relations of equality, which are the very principles and objectives for the achievement and defence of which the United Nations is supposed to have been established.

The deliberate and brutal attacks launched on behalf of the United Nations by the forces of the criminal Zionist-imperialist alliance on civilian economic, humanitarian, medical, cultural and religious targets and on citizens and their families in all parts of Iraq - documented examples of which are provided to you in the present letter - give cogent proof of the fact that the Governments participating in this alliance have the sole objective of taking vengeance on the proud people of Iraq and its militant leadership because of their opposition to the imperialist goals of those Governments.

It is indeed shameful for the United Nations that these premeditated crimes should be committed under the cover provided by resolutions adopted by the Security Council. The most recent of these is Security Council resolution 678 (1990), which the United States of America succeeded in having adopted by means of pressure, blackmail and bribery. The facts with respect to the receipt of bribes by States members of the Council and by leaders in those States are common knowledge.

Hundreds of millions of people in the world, in Asia, Africa and Latin America, who have suffered from the oppression and the crimes of the former colonialists and the new imperialists, are today finding the so-called new international order of which the arrogant former colonialists and new imperialists are speaking to be a dark age of intimidation and threats against those peoples aspiring to freedom and independence and fighting for relations of equality. The removal of the balancing role formerly played by the Soviet Union opens wide the

way for the arrogant former colonialists and new imperialists once again to impose hegemony and intimidation, not only by the use of new and innovative methods, as is well known, but also by the old methods, namely aggression and open military occupation. What is new is that the colonialist technique as witnessed in past centuries has this time been used under the cover provided by iniquitous resolutions fabricated in the name of the United Nations which the Governments of the imperialist colonialist alliance succeeded in having adopted by means of pressure, intimidation, blackmail and bribery.

The States that endorsed those resolutions did so for the motives indicated. You, personally, bear responsibility to history and to mankind for the heinous crimes being committed against the free and militant people of Iraq. Examples are given hereunder of the savage and premeditated acts of aggression committed by the aggressor forces between 17 and 21 January 1991.

Baghdad Governorate

I. 17 January 1991

1. A pasteboard factory and a plastic foam factory in Za'faraniyah bombed.

2. Homes in the Urdunn, Bunuk and Wahdah quarters set on fire.

3. The Postal Department at Bab al-Mu'azzam set on fire and two citizens wounded.

4. A civilian vehicle set on fire near Al-Sha'b bridge.

5. The civil defence centre for the Abu Ghurayb area bombed.

6. Abu Nawwas Street bombed.

II. 18 January 1991

1. A clinic bombed; one killed and 10 wounded and four ambulances damaged.

2. The 7 Nisan residential area bombed; seven killed.

3. The residential Kasrah area bombed.

4. The vegetable-oil factory bombed.

5. Al-Sha'b sports stadium bombed.

III. 19 January 1991

1. The Iwadiyah area bombed, resulting in the wounding of one citizen, the collapse of a restaurant and damage to neighbouring shops.

2. The Ma'rifah residential district bombed; three wounded.

3. A building in the Kasrah area bombed; four civilians killed.

4. The Madinat Saddam residential area bombed; two homes damaged.

5. The Jazirat Baghdad tourist centre bombed; two killed and seven wounded; one home destroyed.

6. A building under construction for the Council of Ministers bombed.

7. The Al-Rashid Hotel area bombed; four homes damaged.

8. The Iraqi Museum bombed; six killed and 10 wounded; large-scale damage to the museum building.

IV. 21 January 1991

1. Five killed and homes damaged in a residential neighbourhood in Baghdad.

2. The Civil Defence Directorate building in the Al-Sha'b area bombed; two of the staff killed and five wounded; five vehicles damaged.

V. 22 January 1991

1. Homes in the 52 Street area bombed; two killed and three wounded.

2. Residential neighbourhoods bombed in Nuayrah, Kiyyarah, the Qadisiyah quarter and the Dur al-Shuhada' quarter.

3. Madinat Saddam bombed and homes set on fire.

4. The Karradat Maryam area bombed; two killed and four wounded; four homes destroyed; a number of neighbouring homes damaged.

VI. 23 January 1991

Residential neighbourhoods in the Waziriyah area and the Amin II area bombed.

Salah al-Din Governorate

I. 17 January 1991

One killed and nine wounded in the Khudayrah area of the Balad district as a result of the explosion of time-delay bombs dropped from aircraft.

II. 21 January 1991

1. Air attack on the Biji - Qaryat al-Bujwari district, wounding six.

2. Attack on the Dur district, in the heavily populated southern region, killing 22 and wounding 33 and causing large-scale damage to 112 homes and 30 vehicles and damage to the Al-Abbasi Mosque.

3. Missile falling in a field in the Faris district, killing one woman and wounding two other citizens, one of them a woman.

4. The Tikrit district bombed with cluster-bombs dropped by two BRM-3A/As.

III. 22 January 1991

Residential centres bombed in the town of Tikrit and the Samarra' and Biji districts.

Ninawa Governorate

19 January 1991

The historic St. Thomas's Church bombed and damaged.

Wasit Governorate

I. 17 January 1991

Air attack on the provincial capital, killing nine and wounding nine others and damaging eight homes.

II. 18 January 1991

Attack on residential neighbourhoods in the city of Kut, killing a woman and wounding 29 other citizens and damaging six homes and six civilian government offices.

Babil Governorate

I. 18 January 1991

1. Residential areas bombed in the Latifiyah subdistrict; one woman wounded; a home damaged.

2. Attacks on the Musayyib district, damaging homes there.

II. 19 January 1991

The provincial capital and the Musayyib, Mahmudiyah and Iskandariyah areas were subjected to air attacks in which the textile plant at Hillah was damaged and two of the workers were killed and 14 wounded and homes in Mahmudiyah were damaged.

III. 21 January 1991

1. The health centre in the provincial capital bombed from the air; 24 wounded; extensive damage to the centre building, the Civil Defence Directorate building and neighbouring homes.

2. The Tall al-Dhahab area bombed; one wounded; homes damaged.

IV. 22 January 1991

Residential areas bombed in the Mahmudiyah and Musayyib districts and the Iskandariyah subdistrict; four civilians wounded.

Anbar Governorate

19 January 1991

1. A food storage warehouse containing vegetable-oil and rice for the civilian inhabitants bombed in the Abu Ghurayb area.

2. Residential centres bombed in the Bubali area of the provincial capital; four children and two women killed; 16 other citizens wounded, including six women and five children; two homes destroyed; and a fire started.

3. The Nukhaym subdistrict bombed; 25 killed; nine wounded.

20 January 1991

1. Attack on the phosphate plant at Qa'im, killing three and wounding others.

2. A warehouse containing foodstuffs, meat and vegetable-oil bombed at Ramadi; two killed and seven wounded.

21 January 1991

1. The Hit district bombed; one killed and three wounded; homes damaged and destroyed; two civilian vehicles destroyed.

2. The Azrakiyah area in the Saqlawiyah subdistrict bombed; a woman killed and four other citizens wounded.

3. A home hit by a missile fired by an aircraft, killing three and wounding nine, all of them women and children.

4. A home hit by a missile fired by an aircraft, destroying the house and a civilian vehicle.

5. An infant formula factory bombed in the Abu Ghurayb area.

6. A poultry farm bombed in the provincial capital.

Qadisiyah Governorate

17 January 1991

1. Residential centres in the provincial capital bombed; four killed and 23 wounded.

2. A residential building bombed, the governorate office building, the civil defence building, a number of shops and houses and four civilian vehicles damaged and an ambulance set on fire.

Muthanna Governorate

18 January 1991

Air attack on a train travelling from Baghdad to Basra; three killed and 21 wounded.

Maysan Governorate

18 January 1991

1. Air attack on civilian areas in the Qal'at Salih and Kahla' districts, killing four in the Ka'bi area and wounding five others.

2. The sugar factory bombed.

Najaf Governorate

I. 18 January 1991

Agglomerations of nomadic Bedouin bombed in the Huwaymal area near Umm Tayyarah; 20 killed, including 12 children and 5 women.

II. 21 January 1991

1. The Kufa cement factory bombed.

2. The water purification plant for the civilian inhabitants bombed; five killed, including a woman, and 22 wounded.

3. Residential neighbourhoods in the cities of Najaf and Kufa bombed; 14 killed, including four children and three women; 24 wounded, including three children and 16 women; a number of homes destroyed and damaged in the Amir quarter of Najaf, where 130 citizens were killed, and in the Al-Mutanabbi quarter of Kufa.

Dhi Qar Governorate

I. 17 January 1991

Air attacks, killing two and wounding five in the Batha' - Qaryat Al Budayr area and wounding two and damaging two homes and a vehicle in the provincial capital.

II. 18 January 1991

Spherical bombs dropped on the Suq al-Shuyukh and Batha' areas, killing two and wounding two.

III. 19 January 1991

One child killed in the Budur area in the course of an air attack.

Qadisiyah Governorate

19 January 1991

1. The State Vehicle Company complex bombed.

2. The food storage warehouse and flour factory bombed; damage caused; 10 killed and 22 wounded; two homes in the Mu'allimin quarter destroyed.

Karbala' Governorate

19 January 1991

1. Residential neighbourhoods bombed in the provincial capital.

2. The Karbala' cement factory bombed, causing large-scale damage.

22 January 1991

A residential neighbourhood bombed in the provincial capital.

Basra Governorate

17-19 January 1991

1. The provincial capital bombed, including areas of the city of Basra, Barjasiyah and Al-Asma'i and neighbouring residential apartments, and Atabat Bin Ghazwan; 28 wounded; 40 shops and some homes and civilian vehicles damaged.

2. The Harithah and Assafiyah areas bombed; six killed and 11 wounded, including a child aged three; six homes, an apartment and four shops destroyed; six shops and 15 vehicles damaged.

3. The Faw district bombed; one wounded; 40 homes damaged.

4. The Qurnah district bombed; two killed and six wounded; a number of homes damaged.

5. The Zubayr district bombed; 17 killed and another 17 wounded; 12 homes destroyed; six civilian vehicles damaged.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq